

Message Text

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45

ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01

IO-10 ACDA-05 SAM-01 NRC-05 /111 W

----- 009306

R 010855Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1104

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

ERDA GERMANTOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 4837

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, MNUC, TGEN, TECH, KS

SUBJECT: URANIUM ENRICHMENT

REF: (A) STATE 150290, (B) STATE 151501, (C) STATE 133123

1. AS DIRECTED REF A, EMBASSY DELIVERED INFORMATION CONCERNING JUNE 26 PRESIDENTIAL ANNOUNCEMENT ON U.S. URANIUM ENRICHMENT CAPACITY.

2. AMBASSADOR FOLLOWED UP TODAY WITH VISIT TO MINISTER CHOI OF MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (MOST) TO REVIEW INFORMATION AND EMPHASIZE THAT PRESIDENTIAL ASSURANCES OF CONTINUED AVAILABILITY OF U.S. ENRICHMENT SERVICES SHOULD DISPEL ANY DOUBTS ROKG HAD CONCERNING U.S. ENRICHMENT CAPABILITY.

3. MINISTER CHOI REPLIED THAT ROKG WAS HAPPY WITH DIRECTION USG WAS TAKING RE NUCLEAR ENRICHMENT BUT WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE SPECIFIC COMMENT UNTIL STAFF HAD STUDIED MATERIALS
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PROVIDED BY EMBASSY AND ERDA "OPEN SEASON" ANNOUNCEMENT

(MENTIONED REF B).

4. COPIES OF ALL MATERIALS CONCERNING U.S. ENRICHMENT INITIATIVES HAVE BEEN PROVIDED TO KECO.

5. AMBASSADOR ASKED WHEN EMBASSY COULD EXPECT RESPONSE TO AIDE MEMOIRE (REF C) AND, DRAWING ON BACKGROUND RATIONALE PROVIDED REF C, INDICATED USG ANXIOUS TO HAVE AGREEMENT ON INTERPRETATION OF BILATERAL NUCLEAR AGREEMENT, PARTICULARLY GIVEN NON-PROLIFERATION ISSUES RAISED IN CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF MORI II LOAN.

6. MINISTER CHOI SAID MOST HAD RETURNED AIDE MEMOIRE TO MOFA FOR PREPARATION OF AN ANSWER. CHOI FURTHER INDICATED THAT MOST HAD "NO PROBLEMS" WITH U.S. INTERPRETATION OF BILATERAL AGREEMENT. MOFA OFFICIALS CONTACTED EMBASSY BY TELEPHONE FRIDAY, JUNE 27, AND INDICATED WRITTEN ANSWER WOULD BE SENT WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS AND THAT IT WOULD "BE IN LINE" WITH USG INTERPRETATION OF BILATERAL.
SNEIDER

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06 JUL 2006

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